# NC Reuse Rule Enhancements A NC AWWA/WEA Collaborative Approach

Don Safrit, P.E.
HDR Engineering, Inc. of the
Carolinas
Calabash Office
don.safrit@hdrinc.com
(910)575-5880







#### Water Reuse Terms Defined

- Reclaimed Water
  - Water Derived from the Treatment of Domestic, Municipal or Industrial Wastewater that is Suitable for a Beneficial Use
- Reuse
  - Use of Reclaimed Water

Reuse is Not Disposal – You are Producing and Recycling a Valuable Product!

#### NC Reuse History

- 1988 Golf Course Irrigation
- 1996 Domestic, Municipal and Industrial
  - Landscape Irrigation
  - Industrial process, cooling, boilers
  - Fire protection, Street Cleaning, Dust Control
- 2007 Enhanced Rules
  - Wetland Enhancement / Restoration
  - Stream Augmentation
  - Aquifer Recharge / Storage
  - Food Chain Crops / Indirect / Direct Potable Use

### Why Reuse Water?



#### Benefits of Reuse

- Dependable, Reliable, Clean Source of Water, Even in Cases of Severe Drought.
- Displace Use of Potable Water Thus Off-Setting Need for New Water Sources or Expansion of Existing Supplies.
- Helps Avoid Dramatic "Swings" in Water Plant Operations Due to Irrigation Demands or Other Peaks Allows a "Steady State" Mode of Operation Opportunity.
- Source of Revenue to Offset or Cover the Cost of Treatment and Distribution.
- MBR Technology may Provide More Cost Effective Reclaimed Water Approaches as Opposed to Conventional Treatment Technologies.
- Satellite or Decentralized Facilities may provide Wastewater Treatment System Redundancies.
- Preferred Means of Wastewater Management by Regulatory Agencies, Environmental Groups, and General Public.

#### Obstacles to Water Reuse

**Cost of Treatment and Distribution** 

Water Rights
Minimum Stream Flow
Requirements

Lack of Stakeholder Consensus End User Costs Retrofitting Costs Staff Costs

Public Perceptions
Public Relations
Public Outreach

**Cross-Connection Controls** 

Policy Makers
Acceptance / Support

**Inexpensive Water Supplies** 

Limited Regulatory
Guidance

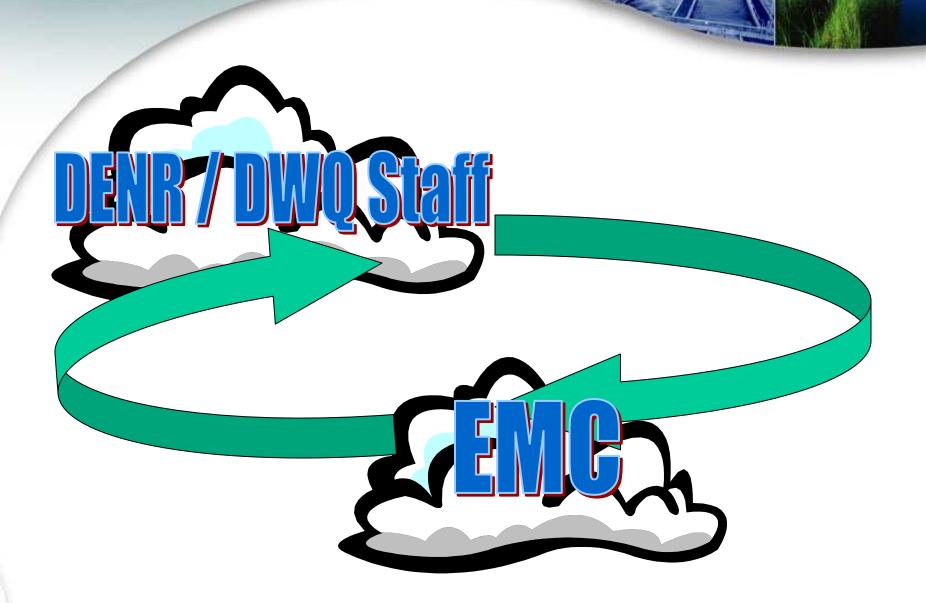
# AWWA WEA Water Reuse Committee Business Plan Initiatives

- Provide Training Opportunities
  - Annual Reuse Seminar
  - Encourage Reuse Presentations at Conferences
  - Maintain Database of Reuse Papers and Speakers
- Improve Communications
  - Maintain Reuse Website
  - Maintain Reuse Project Database
  - Provide Newsleaks Articles on Reuse
- Take an Active Role in Development of Public Policies
  - Work with Regulatory Agencies on Various Reuse Issues
  - Have Input into Laws and Regulations that Impact Reuse

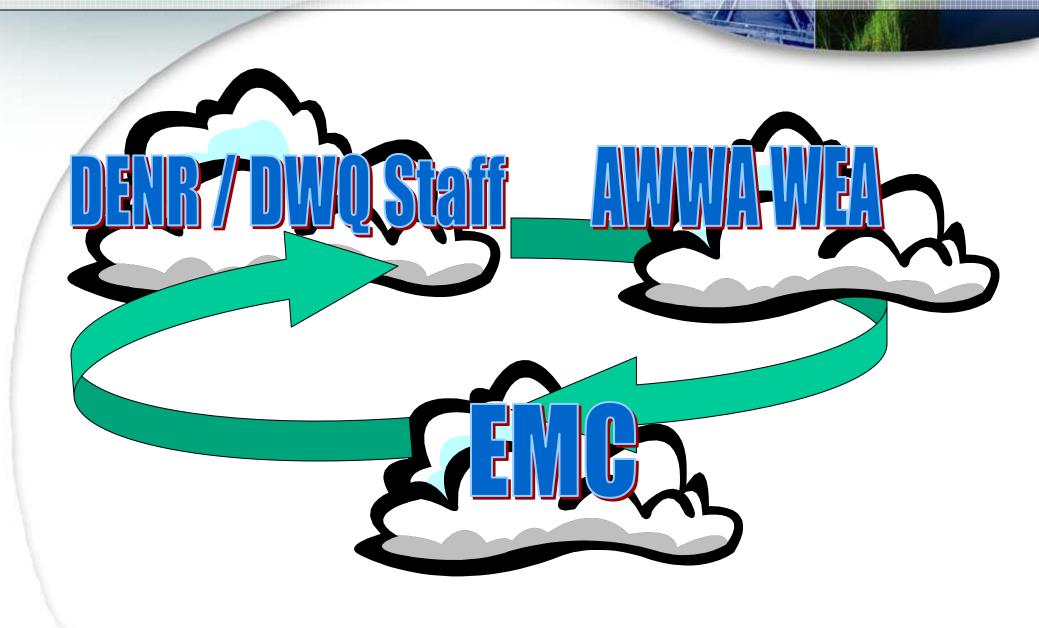
#### Rule Enhancement Objectives

- Elevate Reuse to Level Distinct From "Wastewater"
- Evaluate Existing Rules for Clarification Opportunities
- Evaluate Other States' Rules and Policies for Programmatic Improvements

#### Traditional Rule Making Process



#### Proposed Rule Making Process



#### Administrative Components

• 15A NCAC 02H .0X01	PURPOSE
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X02	SCOPE
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X03	DEFINITION OF TERMS
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X04	ACTIVITIES WHICH REQUIRE A PERMIT
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X05	APPLICATION: FEES: SUPPORTING INFORMATION: REQUIREMENTS
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X06	SUBMISSION OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X07	STAFF REVIEW AND PERMIT PREPARATION
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X08	FINAL ACTION ON PERMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE DIVISION
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X09	PERMIT RENEWALS
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X10	MODIFICATION AND REVOCATION OF PERMITS
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X11	DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X12	PERMITTING BY REGULATION
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X13	CONDITIONS FOR ISSUING GENERAL PERMITS

RECLAIMED WATER TREATMENT PERFORMANCE LEVELS
RECLAIMED WATER TREATMENT FACILITY REQUIREMENTS
RECLAIMED WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS
LOCAL MUNICIPAL PROGRAMS FOR RECLAIMED WATER SYSTEMS
RECLAIMED WATER STORAGE SYSTEMS
USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR LAND APPLICATION SYSTEMS
USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR INDUSTRIAL OR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES

#### • RECLAIMED WATER TREATMENT PERFORMANCE LEVELS

Parameter	Requirement	Class I Performance Level	Class II Performance Level
BOD <sub>5</sub>	Monthly Average	10	10
<b>B</b> O <b>D</b> <sub>5</sub>	Daily Maximum	15	15
TSS	Monthly Average	5	5
	Daily Maximum	10	5
NH <sub>3</sub>	Monthly Average	4	4
	Daily Maximum	6	6
Turbidity	Any Single Reading	10 NTU	5 NTU
luibidity	Daily Average	N/A	2 NTU
	5% Daily Maximum	N/A	5 NTU
Fecal Coliform	<b>Monthly Geometric Mean</b>	14 Colonies / 100 ml	0 Colonies / 100 ml
	Daily Maximum	25 Colonies / 100 ml	N/A
Total Coliform	7 Day Median	N/A	2.2 Colonies / 100 ml
	30 Day Maximum	N/A	23 Colonies / 100 ml

- RECLAIMED WATER TREATMENT FACILITY REQUIREMENTS
- Dual-Path Treatment Facilities
- Certified Operator on call 24 hours / day
- Facilities < 1.0 MGD Equalization
- Facilities < 1.0 MGD 5 Day Side Stream Detention Basin
- Satellite Facilities Reduced Reliability Requirements

- RECLAIMED WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS
- Labeling Requirements
- Cross-Connection Controls
- Minimum Separations
- Booster Pump Station Requirements
- Bulk Delivery via Tanker Trucks

- LOCAL MUNICIPAL PROGRAMS FOR RECLAIMED WATER SYSTEMS
- Delegation of Local Reclaimed Water Distribution System Extensions and Utilization Programs
- Similar Approach to Delegated Sewer Collection System Program

- RECLAIMED WATER STORAGE SYSTEMS
- Elevated or Ground Storage Tanks
  - Designed and Constructed in Accordance with AWWA Standards
- Earthen Impoundments
  - Bottoms Less than 3 Foot Above Bedrock or 1 Foot Above Seasonal High Water Table Will Need to Be Lined (1x10<sup>-7</sup> cm/s)
  - Impoundment Must Preclude Surface Water or Storm Water Runoff Into Impoundment
  - Minimum of 2 Foot of Freeboard

- USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR LAND APPLICATION SYSTEMS
- Application Rates in Accordance with Agronomic Rates
  - Soil Absorption and Needs of Receiving Crop
- Public Notification of Reclaimed Water Use
- Setbacks / Buffers Associated with Class I Reclaimed Water
- Setbacks / Buffers Eliminated with Class II Reclaimed Water

- USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR INDUSTRIAL OR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES
- Acknowledgement that Municipally Derived Reclaimed Water May be Used for Industrial Purposes
- Employee Notification to Inform Employees and General Public that Reclaimed Water is Being Utilized and Not Intended for Drinking.

• 15A NCAC 02H .0X21	INDUSTRIAL SOURCE RECLAIMED WATER SYSTEMS
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X22	USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR TOILET FLUSHING OR OTHER INDOOR USES
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X23	USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR WETLAND ENHANCEMENT OR RESTORATION
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X24	USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR STREAM AUGMENTATION
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X25	USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR GROUNDWATER RECHARGE
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X26	AQUIFER STORAGE AND RECOVERY OF RECLAIMED WATER
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X27	USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR INDIRECT OR DIRECT HUMAN

**CONSUMPTION PURPOSES** 

#### • INDUSTRIAL SOURCE RECLAIMED WATER SYSTEMS

- Requirements for Reclaimed Water Derived from Industrial Wastestreams
- Quality of Reclaimed Water Must be Protective of Employee Health and Safety
- Allowed for Industrial Processes as well as Site Irrigation
- Allowed for Off-Site Distribution
- Not Allowed for
  - Irrigation of Food Chain Crops
  - Swimming Pools, Hot-tubs or Other Similar Uses
  - Direct Potable Water Supply

- USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR TOILET FLUSHING OR OTHER INDOOR USES
- Allowed for Commercial Structures Where Access to the Plumbing System is not Readily Accessible by the Occupants
  - Churches, Schools, Universities, Apartments, Condominiums, Office Buildings and Industrial Buildings
- Not Allowed for Internal Use to any Individually Owned Residential Unit
- No Interconnection to Potable Water System Except with a Minimum 8-inch Air Gap
- Testing Requirements for Cross-Connections a Minimum of Once Every 4 Years

- USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR WETLAND ENHANCEMENT OR RESTORATION
- Hydraulic Loading Limitation to Natural Wetlands of 8 inches/week
- Hydraulic Loading Limitation to Constructed Wetlands of 14 inches/week
- Class I Performance Levels Plus TKN Limit of 3 mg/l and TP Limit of 1 mg/l
- Protective of Both Surface Water Standards and Groundwater Standards
- Long-term monitoring to demonstrate existing beneficial uses are protected or enhanced first, second, fourth, sixth, eighth and tenth growing season.

- USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR STREAM AUGMENTATION
- Must Demonstrate Beneficial Purpose, such as
  - In-stream flow enhancement
  - Maintenance or enhancement of wetland uses
  - Irrigation supplies
  - Fisheries propagation
  - Groundwater recharge
  - Interbasin transfer

- USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR GROUNDWATER RECHARGE
- Direct injection restricted unless modeling demonstrates to the Division that groundwater standards will not be contravened
- Any subsurface injection will be retained underground for a minimum of 12 months and be separated at least 2,000 feet from an extraction point utilized for drinking water purposes.

- AQUIFER STORAGE AND RECOVERY OF RECLAIMED WATER
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery is not "Reuse"
- Comply with Division's Underground Injection Program
- Reclaimed water should not degrade in quality coliform levels must be met prior to reintroduction to the reclaimed distribution system
- Engineering Report must be submitted with application
  - Characteristics of reclaimed water during injection, storage and extraction phases
  - Evaluate need for additional treatment upon extraction
  - Groundwater characterization at point of injection

- USE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR INDIRECT OR DIRECT HUMAN CONSUMPTION PURPOSES
- Must use Class II Reclaimed Water
- Irrigation of Food Chain Crops / Food Preparation Uses
  - Must have Department of Agriculture Approval
- Use for Potable Water Supply
  - Must have DEH Public Water Supply Branch Approval
  - Percentage of Reclaimed Water cannot exceed 25%
  - Annual monitoring for Cryptosporidium and Giardia

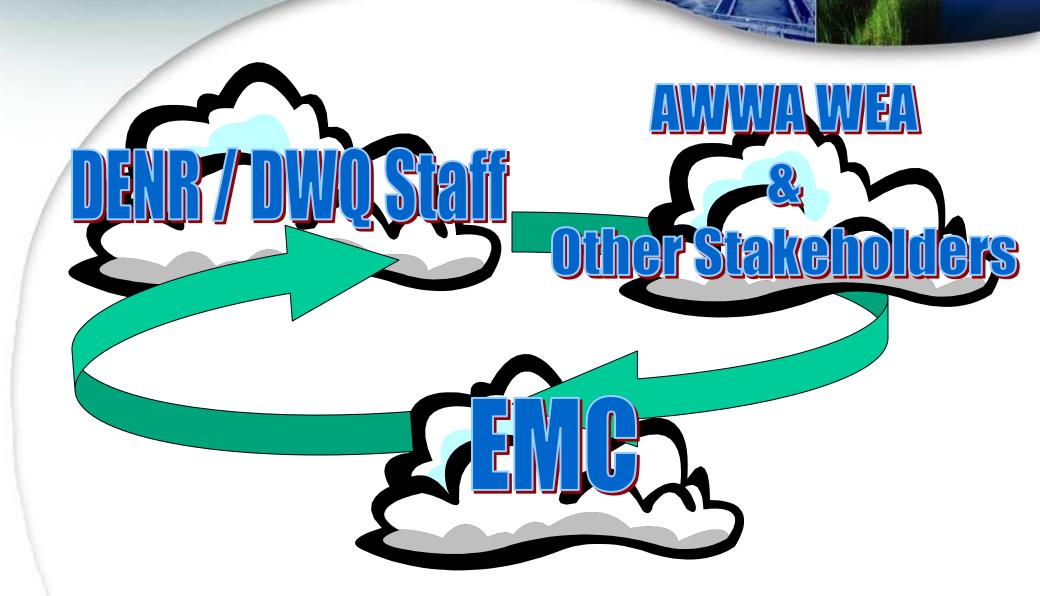
## Administrative Components

• 15A NCAC 02H .0X28	ALTERNATIVE DESIGN CRITERIA AND OTHER USES
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X29	CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETION
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X30	OPERATIONAL AGREEMENTS
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X31	THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS EMERGENCY FUND
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X32	DEMONSTRATION OF FUTURE WASTEWATER TREATMENT CAPACITIES
• 15A NCAC 02H .0X33	TREATMENT FACILITY OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

#### Proposed Rule Enhancement Schedule

- Reuse Rule Subcommittee
  - Completed Draft Rules December 8, 2004
- Draft Rules Submitted to AWWA WEA Government Affairs Committee
  - Approved and forwarded to Board January 21, 2005
- AWWA WEA Board Recommendation to DENR
  - Transmittal Letter Signed January 25, 2005
- Stakeholders Meetings with DENR & Appropriate Divisions
  - Initiated February 2007

#### Proposed Rule Making Process



#### DENR Rule Making Process

- DENR Reuse Rule Review and Evaluation
  - Complete Draft Rules by December 30, 2007
- Draft Rule Submitted to EMC Water Quality Committee
  - February 2008 EMC Meeting
- Draft Rules Submitted to EMC
  - April 2008 EMC Meeting
- Rule Public Hearing Process
  - April / May 2008
- EMC Approval of Proposed Rules
  - June 2008 Meeting
- Submission to Rules Review Commission
  - July 2008
- Rule Enhancements Adopted
  - September 2008

#### After Rules Are Accepted by EMC







